**My Definition**

(Pre, During, Post Topic/Lesson)

* *The purpose of using this vocabulary strategy is to check prior knowledge of key vocabulary in the topic and to provide a way to check that key vocabulary has been learnt.*

**Possible approach:**

1. At the start of a topic or lesson draw up a list of key words

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **WORD** | **OWN DEFINITION** | **REVISED DEFINITION** |
|  |  |  |

2. Give students the words you have selected.

3. Students write in their own definition for the words. Do not allow dictionaries. Encourage students to complete definitions for all words, even those they are totally unfamiliar with using clues in the words if they need to.

4. Collect sheets and store, or use their books

5. Teach the topic (and all the words obviously).

6. Give back the sheets and have students complete revised definitions for each of the words. If their original definition was correct, they can tick the ‘revised definition’ column. Encourage students to use their own words as much as possible.

7. It is important to point out key strategies that students can use to deal with unfamiliar words eg prefixes, suffixes, chunks,